## NEW ADULT EDUCATION WEBSITE
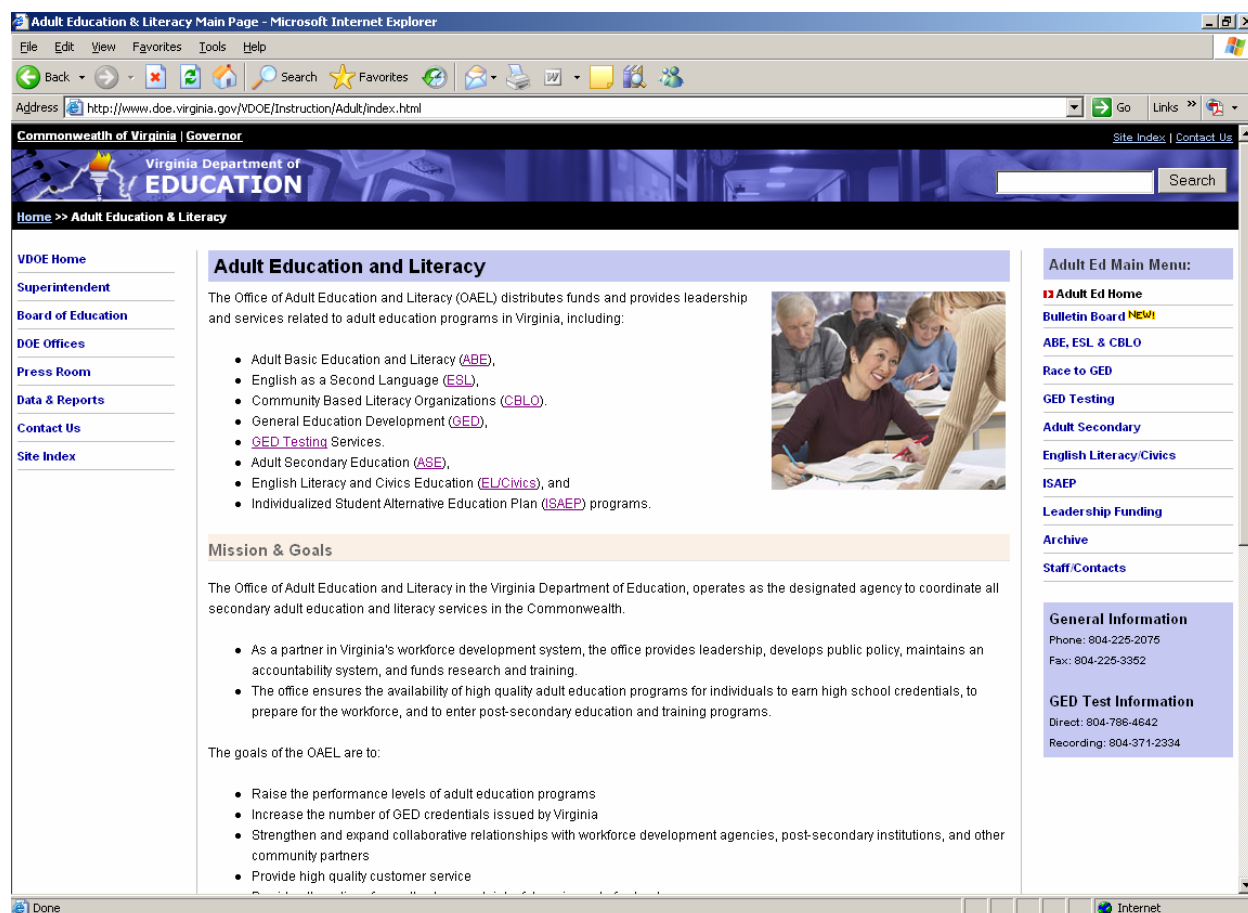


The Office of Adult Education and Literacy has released a new version of the Website.  The site is designed to be more accessible to users with special needs.  All state agencies must meet this standard by January 1, 2007.  It is intended to have better organization and access to information for a variety of audiences.

## IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES – UPDATED

In December 2005, the guidelines for implementing the NRS were updated.  The previous version of the guidelines dated to March 2001.  The guidelines are similar but provide enhanced focus on:
- assessments,
- data matching vs. survey of follow-up performance, and
- NRS performance tables.

The guidelines are searchable and printable on-line at http://www.nrsweb.org/

REQUIRED TABLES

Three additional tables will become required for NRS reporting:
- Table 4B: Educational Gains and Attendance for Pre- and Post-tested Participants
- Table 10: Outcomes for Adults in Correctional Education Programs
- Table 14: Local Grantees by Funding Source

Samples of each table have been provided. These tables will be added to the NRS Web-based Data System.

ALIGNMENT OF FOLLOW-UP

For 2006-2007, follow-up of student goals: enter employment, retain employment, enter post-secondary education or training, and obtain GED will follow the timeline of WIA – Title 1. Follow-up matching will occur one year after the end of the program year. Therefore, 2006-2007 follow-up will match performance of 2005-2006 participants.

Currently, all data is matched at Virginia Tech annually. The three matching sources include:
- Virginia Employment Commission (VEC)
- State Council of Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV)
- Oklahoma Scoring Service (OSS)

The net result of this new process should be improved measures of performance.

UPDATED EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING LEVELS (EFLs)

For 2006-2007, two significant changes will occur for the ESOL functioning levels.
1. ESL Beginning will be split into two levels: Low and High Beginning with corresponding changes to the scale scores for each assessment.
2. ESL High Advanced will be discontinued and ESL Low Advanced will be called ESL Advanced.

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE

In the coming months, OAEL will be developing and deploying local program status reports/report cards. The resulting report will detail the local program in comparison to others in the superintendent's region and statewide totals. It will identify the impact of an individual program's performance on the overall performance of the state.

EMPHASIS ON STAFFING

OAEL is beginning to focus more on the staffing of local programs. Specifically, we are reviewing staff qualifications such as education level, certifications, endorsements, and assessment qualifications.